

**REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA  
AND RECORD OF ACTION**

Revised

14

**November 30, 2004**

**FROM: PATRICK J. MEAD, Director**  
Department of Public Works - **Flood Control**

**SUBJECT: NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR SAN SEVAINE CHANNEL LOWER  
REACH IMPROVEMENT PROJECT - FONTANA AREA**

**RECOMMENDATION:** Acting as the governing body of the Flood Control District (District),

1. Adopt Notice of Determination and Mitigated Negative Declaration for construction of the San Sevaime Channel Lower Reach Improvement project in the Fontana area, and
2. Direct the Clerk to file the Notice of Determination.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** An Initial Study (IS) for the proposed project was prepared in April 2004 by the Department of Public Works, Environmental Management Division. The project includes channel improvement within San Bernardino and Riverside Counties, with only a small portion of the improvements falling within Riverside County to connect to the existing improved channel. The proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration was circulated on May 7, 2004, to the responsible and trustee agencies, interested organizations, and individuals for the 30-day comment period as specified in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines. A response was received from the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District and the South Coast Air Quality Management District. Each agency's comments/issues were addressed and are incorporated in this document. The specified mitigation measures and implementation of the mitigation monitoring and reporting program that is included in the IS indicate this project will not have a significant effect on the environment. The IS also includes additional mitigation measures that will require the District to obtain permits from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board-Santa Ana Region, and the California Department of Fish and Game prior to commencement of project construction.

CEQA Guidelines require that Negative Declarations for County projects be adopted by the Board prior to the Board approving authority to initiate requests for construction bids.

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**REVIEW AND APPROVAL BY OTHERS:** This item was reviewed by Deputy County Counsel Charles S. Scolastico (387-5481) on November 9, 2004 and the County Administrative Office (Tom Forster, Administrative Analyst, 387-4635) on November 17, 2004.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:** The cost of this project is \$5,000,000. The City of Fontana (City) is providing the funding for this project and the District will repay the City \$2,000,000 in 2008 per executed Agreement 03-1056 that was adopted by the Board on October 7, 2003 (Resolution 2003-382). This action to adopt the Mitigated Negative Declaration has no financial impact.

**COST REDUCTION REVIEW:** The County Administrative Office has reviewed this item and concurs with the District's recommendation because approval would provide needed flood control improvements in the City. These improvements, which will provide great benefit in flood protection to the public, will be accomplished at this time rather than waiting until District funds are available.

**SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT(S):** 2<sup>nd</sup>

**PRESENTER:** Patrick J. Mead, 387-7906

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